



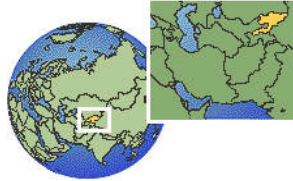
E-Bulletin

Spring 2006

Central Asia

Kyrgyzstan: Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia Launched as an Independent Organization

The Eurasia Foundation launched a new regional organization in February 2006. Based in Bishkek, the Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia builds on the best practices of the Washington, DC-based Eurasia Foundation, which has successfully operated in the region for over a decade. Kyrgyz Republic Deputy Vice Minister Adakhan Madumarov (photo, right) opened the inauguration event with Andrew Wilson (center), president of the new organization, who said: "We have now partnered with the region for the long-term to build social and civic initiatives." [More](#)



Kazakhstan: Partnerships with Corporations and Ministries Safeguard Children and Revive the Vernacular Arts

The Ministry of Education and Science is working with the Eurasia Foundation and Philip Morris Kazakhstan/Altria Group to bolster children's welfare, highlighted by President Nazarbayev in 2006 as a top national priority. Projects include the third phase of a program that promotes foster care in five cities across Kazakhstan. In another program, representatives of the Eurasia Foundation and Chevron Corporation met with the Kazakhstan Minister of Culture and Information to plan the launch of an initiative that will provide assistance to artisans, revive the vernacular arts and help local craftspeople gain better access to domestic and international markets.

www.efcentralasia.org

Moldova, Belarus, Ukraine

Moldova: Eurasia Foundation and Government Cooperate to Inform Citizens on EU Integration

The Eurasia Foundation in Moldova signed a landmark cooperative agreement in April 2006 with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration to increase public participation in the EU-Moldova Action Plan. Moldovan Vice Minister Valeriu Ostalep said about the agreement: "We rely on the Eurasia Foundation's expertise to design new ways for the Ministry to respond to citizens' concerns as we embark on our pro-European course." Contact Associate Country Director [Sorin Mereacre](#) for more information.

Spotlight

Sorin Mereacre, Eurasia Foundation associate country director for Moldova, was appointed to the Moldovan government's Millennium Challenge Corporation Working Group, according to an April 2006 decision signed by Prime Minister Vasile Tarlev. Sorin is one of three NGO representatives on the Working Group. His role will be to monitor and advise on the government's implementation of the Millennium Challenge Account Threshold Plan, a program dedicated to reducing corruption in Moldova.

Belarus: MBA Program Celebrates 10 Years

The Eurasia Foundation was the first, in 1996, to support the Institute of Business and Management Technologies at Belarus State University, which celebrated its tenth anniversary recently. Over the past decade, donors including Deloitte & Touche and universities in India, U.S., Sweden and Norway contributed to the program, which is now self-sufficient. Many of the Institute's top-ranked graduates are working as professionals in the region's private business sectors. The official slogan of the Institute is: "Answering the Challenges of Today by Preparing the Leaders of Tomorrow."

Ukraine: Eurasia Foundation Helps Local Governments Improve Energy Efficiency

The Ukrainian Ministry of Construction, Architecture, Housing and Communal Services

Ukraine: Eurasia Foundation Helps Local Governments Improve Energy Efficiency

The Ukrainian Ministry of Construction, Architecture, Housing and Communal Services and the Eurasia Foundation announced a program to improve energy efficiency through NGO-municipal government partnerships. Minister Pavlo Kachur said: "With this program, the Eurasia Foundation has proposed something that is missing now—a bridge between ideas and their implementation. The Eurasia Foundation has a tradition of supporting cross-sectoral cooperation between government and civil society."

Ukraine: Parliamentary Elections '06 Declared Free and Fair



Dr. Olexiy Haran, Eurasia Foundation regional vice president for Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova, spoke at Harvard University on April 10 and at the Woodrow Wilson Center, Kennan Institute, on April 12. Dr. Haran analyzed post-Orange Ukraine and the results of the March 2006 parliamentary and local elections, outlining paths the government can take for coalition building. He also noted: "The parliamentary elections were mostly free from corruption and the press reported with European levels of freedom." Click [here](#) for a summary of the Kennan event.

www.eurasia.kiev.ua

Ukraine & Russia

Economics Education and Research Consortium (EERC) Graduates Landing Top Jobs

Graduates and participants of the EERC, with centers in [Kyiv](#) and [Moscow](#) and original funding from the Eurasia Foundation, are highly successful in the local job market, according to the EERC alumni association, which reported: "The major corporate employers of our graduates are Ernst & Young, PricewaterhouseCoopers and Raiffeisen/Aval. And there is continuous interest in hiring our students from Citibank, BritMark and Deloitte & Touche. Also, the Secretariat of the Ukrainian President has approached EERC several times inquiring about good talent."

Russia

New Eurasia Foundation Brings Public and Private Sectors Together to Increase Small Business Development

In Europe, small businesses contribute up to 50% of the GDP. In Russia, the figure is about 18%. To help small businesses get off the ground, SUAL-Holding, a global top-10 aluminum company, joined forces with the New Eurasia Foundation to foster small business development in the Nizhnyy Sergey region where the Russian company has a plant. Since the program started in 2005, 100 new small businesses have been registered and over 1,000 individuals have become newly employed in the small business sector alone. The success of the program brought the local municipality onboard and it now dedicates part of its budget to assist start-up entrepreneurs.

www.neweurasia.ru

South Caucasus

Armenia: GOPAC and a Powerful Anti-Corruption Drive

The Armenian national structure of the Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC) was inaugurated at a major, multi-day conference on corruption in April 2006. The conference took place at the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia and was organized in partnership with the Eurasia Foundation, UNDP and OSCE. The event moved the issue of corruption as a serious obstacle to domestic growth to the forefront of the Armenian national discussion. During the course of the event, international experts shared best practices, and concrete strategies for Armenia were formulated. The initiative received widespread popular support and media coverage. [More](#)

*Special
Report*

"The successful fight against corruption depends on the progress of democracy, because democracy means transparency, supervision and public monitoring, that is to say everything that is necessary for achieving success in this difficult struggle. It is unequivocal that the active participation and efficient cooperation of the parliaments, civil society institutions and mass media will greatly contribute to the defeat of corruption."

- Armenia National Assembly Speaker Artur Baghdasarian

South Caucasus Cooperation Program (SCCP) Supports Trilateral

South Caucasus Cooperation Program (SCCP) Supports Trilateral Partnerships in Media and Water Resource Management

The Eurasia Foundation's SCCP is supporting cross-border cooperation between the region's leading media outlets, advocacy organizations and university journalism departments. SCCP is also deepening the involvement of civil society organizations in the management of trans-boundary water resources across the region. [SCCP](#)

Quick Links to the South Caucasus

The Eurasia Foundation operates numerous programs in the South Caucasus. Please visit our local Web sites for detailed information.

Georgia	Tourism Award	www.eurasia.org.ge
Azerbaijan	Youth Bank	www.efazerbaijan.org
Armenia	Anti-Corruption	www.eurasia.am
South Caucasus Cooperation Program	Regional Media	www.efscpp.org
Caucasus Research Resource Centers	Regional Data	www.crrccenters.org

Did You Notice our New Logo?

The Eurasia Foundation has adopted a new visual identity! Our new look reflects our vision for the future and our continuing commitment to the individuals and institutions of the Eurasia region as it moves beyond the transition from the Soviet system. For more information about this exciting development, please see the [highlight](#) on our Web site.



Recommended

Eurasia Foundation Localization Strategy

Click [here](#) to read an interview by *Alliance* with Eurasia Foundation President Charles William Maynes. Published quarterly by Allavida, *Alliance* is a leading international magazine on philanthropy and social investment.

Uzbekistan: Democratization or Business as Usual?

Click [here](#) to read a recently published article in *Philanthropy News Digest* by Jeff Erlich, Eurasia Foundation regional director for Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

Eurasia Foundation Brochure & Annual Report

The Eurasia Foundation's 2006 brochure is available as a free [download](#) from our Web site. The Foundation's 2005 annual report will be available in late May.

Thank you for forwarding this e-bulletin to your friends and colleagues. If you wish to send us your comments or unsubscribe, please send a message to: ebulletin@eurasia.org. The Eurasia Foundation is a privately managed non-profit organization supported by the United States Agency for International Development and other public and private donors. Since 1992, the Eurasia Foundation has invested more than \$335 million through more than 7,700 grants and technical assistance projects.

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